

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 3, 2003, in which claims 1-2, 6-10, and 21 were finally rejected. With this Amendment claims 1 and 21 have been canceled and claims 2 and 6 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 3. Because amended claims 2 and 6 contain all the limitations of allowed independent claim 3, claims 2 and 6 are now in condition for allowance. Similarly, claims 7 and 8, which depend from amended claim 6, and claims 9 and 10, which depend from claim 8, are now also in condition for allowance.

The specification was objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. In particular, the specification was objected to for failing to teach the element recited in claim 21. Since claim 21 has been canceled, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be removed.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) in the Office Action mailed on July 14, 2003 for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the drawings were objected to for failing to show leg and arm members each having three articulated segments as recited in claim 9. To address the Examiner's concerns, the terms "leg member" and "arm member" in claim 9 were replaced with the terms "leg appendage" and "arm appendage" in the Amendment mailed on September 3, 2003. Since the drawings were neither objected to or referenced in the most recent Office Action, Applicant assumes that the drawing objection was overcome with the changes made in the previous Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982. Any inquiries regarding this application should be directed to David Fairbairn at (612) 339-1863.

First Named Inventor: Eric R. Melzer et al.

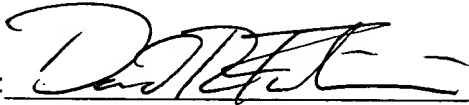
Application No.: 09/955,922

-8-

Respectfully submitted,

KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.

Date: 11/12/03

By: 

David R. Fairbairn, Reg. No. 26,047

THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING

312 South Third Street

Minneapolis, MN 55415-1002

Telephone: (612) 339-1863

Fax: (612) 339-6580

DRF:AAD:eav